

Application No. 09/414,004
Docket No. 37310-000144/US

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-40 have been cancelled and claims 41-70 have been added.

REQUESTED EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Applicants representative respectfully thanks Examiner Fernandez and her supervisor Examiner Berman for taking the time to conduct a personal interview with applicants representative on September 24, 2002. Applicants believe that the enclosed amendments and remarks are consistent with the general agreement reached during the personal interview of September 24. If the Examiner or her supervisor has any further questions with respect to the present application, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned in order to expedite the present matter.

REJECTIONS

Previously pending claims 1-13 and 15-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Smith and Schamber.

Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 41 recites an electron beam exposure tool which includes an electron gun including an electron gun assembly. The electron beam exposure tool also includes at least one lens array, placed in a drift space of the electron beam exposure tool, adjacent to the electron gun for controlling emittance of the electron beam exposure tool. In two exemplary embodiments of the present invention, at least one lens array is placed in the electron gun assembly or in a liner attached to the electron gun assembly.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Smith nor Schamber teach or suggest at least one lens array, for controlling emittance of the electron beam exposure tool, placed in a drift

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space adjacent to the electron gun. Accordingly, allowance of claims 41-70 is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that all other matter regarding the present application have been resolved.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 41-70 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below to schedule a personal interview time.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
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Respectfully submitted,

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By

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